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I hereby certify that this *Information Disclosure Statement* is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date, February 23, 2005.

Karen Buzinski

Customer Number
24024

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application	n of:	Williams et al.)	Examiner:	E. Nicholson
Serial No.:		10/707,698)	Art Unit:	3679
Filed:		August 15, 2003)	Attorney Doc	ket No.: 22188/06727
For:	FERRULE W REDUCE GA	ITH RELIEF))		

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A&B forms and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for
foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication
from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together
with that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the
foreign patent office.

02/28/2005 SHINASSI 00000060 10707698

FC-1806 180.00

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\boxtimes	In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: English translation of Abstract enclosed. The DE patent 2735477 appears to show a device that requires the use of an additional seal element.				
	Complete English translations of foreign language documents are being submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such documents is required.				
<u>CER</u>	FIFICATION AND FEE PAYMENT INFORMATION				
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 030172 .				
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from a Communication from a foreign patent office and Applicant submits the following Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this Communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.				
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 030172				
	Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.				
	No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.				

DEOD	MATIC	ON DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	Attorney Docket No. 22188/067	127
Appln.		707,698	Attorney Docket No. 22186/00/	21
	37 C.F	resent Information Disclosure Statement is F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three mon uiling date of the first Office Action on the	ths from the application's filing	date and
	Notice (which	of Allowance, or an action that otherwise never is earlier). Accordingly, Applicant strong The fee is being paid in the following	e closes prosecution in the application in the application in the fee required under 3° closes.	cation
	\boxtimes	A check is attached in the amount of \$15	<u>30.00</u> as required under 37 § 1.1	7(p).
		The patent office is hereby authorized to any related fee to Deposit Account No.		and
	Office applica submit	resent Information Disclosure Statement is Action, Notice of Allowance or an action ation, but on or before the payment of the ts the following Statement under 37 C.F.R 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).	that otherwise closes prosecution issue fee. Accordingly, Application	on in the
		Each item of information contained in the cited in a Communication from a foreign		

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

AND, the fee is being paid in the following manner:

A check is attached in the amount of \$_____ as required under 37 § 1.17(p).

three months prior to the filing of this statement.

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than

3 of 4

Attorney Docket No. 22188/06727

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Appln. No. 10/707,698

The patent office is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$	and
any related fee to Deposit Account No. 030172	

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Feb. 8, 205

Levis, Reg. No. 31,176

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Cor	mplete if Known	
Application Number	10/707,698	
Filing Date	August 15, 2003	
First Named Inventor	Williams et al.	
Art Unit	3679	
Examiner Name	E. Nicholson	
Attorney Docket Number	22188/06727	

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevan Figures Appear
		US- 000 500	004000	D	- I gardon ppear
		^{US-} 388,522	08/1888	Beauchemin	
		^{US-} 1,323,705	12/1919	Lynch	
·		^{US-} 1,874,284	08/1932	Goodall et al.	
		^{US-} 2,150,042	03/1939	Shultz	
		^{US-} 2,171,217	08/1939	Kreidel	
		^{US-} 2,179,127	11/1939	Lauer	
		^{US-} 2,182,811	12/1939	Kocher	
		us- 2,437,632	03/1948	Wolfram	*
		^{US-} 2,506,838	5/1950	Leonard	
		^{US-} 2,251,717	08/1941	Parker	
		^{US-} 2,330,841	10/1943	Parker	
		^{US-} 2,344,032	03/1944	Eden	
		^{US-} 5,183,322	02/1993	Haruch	
		^{US-} 2,463,707	08/1949	Matousek	
		^{US-} 2,484,815	10/1949	Crawford	
		^{US-} 2,579,529	12/1951	Woodling	
		^{US-} 2,641,487	06/1953	LaMarre	
		^{US-} 2,687,315	08/1954	Courtot	
		^{US-} 2,701,149	02/1955	Kreidel et al.	

		FORE	IGN PATENT DOC	JMENTS		
Examiner Cite		Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		DE 2735477	02/1978	Sundholm		
		DE 4041679	06/1992	Voss		L
		DE 4211498	10/1993	EM-Technik		
_		DE 4219722	12/1993	Lehmann		
		DE 4238877	05/1994	Lehmann		Т

Examiner	Date	
Signature	. Consider	ed

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

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Attorney Docket Number

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number 10/707,698 Filing Date August 15, 2003 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor Williams et al. STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 3679 (Use as many sheets as necessary) Examiner Name E. Nicholson 22188/06727

Sheet 2

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	^{US-} 5,351,998	10/1994	Behrens et al.	
		^{US-} 2,744,651	05/1956	Bredstchneider	
		^{US-} 2,749,152	06/1956	Courtot	
		^{US-} 3,075,793	01/1963	Lennon et al.	
		^{US-} 3,103,373	09/1963	Lennon et al.	
		^{US-} 3,120,696	02/1964	Lubkin	
		^{US-} 5,482,232	01/1996	Ohmi et al.	
		^{US-} 5,882,050	03/1999	Williams et al.	
		^{US-} 3,250,550	05/1966	Lyon	
		^{US-} 3,275,350	09/1966	Kody	
		^{US-} 3,290,069	12/1966	Davis	
		^{US-} 5,934,714	08/1999	Sugiyama et al.	
		^{US-} 3,336,058	08/1967	Franck	
		^{US-} 6,073,976	06/2000	Schmidt et al.	
		US- 3,445,128	05/1969	Teeters	
		^{US-} 3,484,123	12/1969	van der Velden	
		^{US-} 3,584,900	06/1971	Lennon et al.	
_		^{US-} 6,131,963	10/2000	Williams et al.	
		US- 3,707,302	12/1972	Hiszpanski	

		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	JMENTS		
Examiner Cite		Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code ^{3 -} Number ^{4 -} Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	Te
		DE 4304534	08/1994	Lehmann		
		EP 071678	02/1983	Deere & Co.		
		EP 223185	05/1987	Norbert		L
		EP 484091	05/1992	Crawford		
		EP 489289	06/1992	Parker		
		EP 528079	02/1993	Aerogroup		

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Signature		onsidered	
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/707,698		
Filing Date	August 15, 2003		
First Named Inventor	Williams et al.		
Art Unit	3679		
Examiner Name	E. Nicholson		
Attorney Docket Number	22188/06727		

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 3,736,008	05/1973	Crawford	
		^{US-} 3,787,080	01/1974	Daniel	
		^{US-} 6,345,845	02/2002	Johnston	
		^{US-} 3,970,337	07/1976	Niemeyer	
		^{US-} 4,005,824	02/1977	Becker et al.	
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		^{US-} 6,629,708	10/2003	Williams et al.	
-		US- 4,230,349	10/1980	Normark	
		^{US-} 4,235,461	11/1980	Normark	
		^{US-} 4,361,283	11/1982	Hetherington et al.	
		^{US-} 2004/0113429	06/2004	Williams et al.	
_		^{US-} 5,083,749	01/1992	Linderman et al.	
		^{US-} 4,702,420	10/1987	Rath	
		US- 4,826,218	05/1989	Zahuranec	
		US- 4,915,427	04/1990	Zahuranec	
		^{US-} 4,995,646	02/1991	Johnston et al.	
		^{US-} 5,027,489	07/1991	Johnston	
_		^{US-} 5,074,599	12/1991	Wirbel et al.	
		US-			

 	FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	JMENTS		,
Cite No.1	ite Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
 	Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
	EP 1406039	04/2004	Swagelok		
	FR 757204	12/1933	Angelterre		
	FR 1092160	04/1955	Grande-Beaumont		
	FR 1170298	01/1959	St. Clair		
	GB 836002	06/1960	KAC Ltd.		
 	GB 1130835	10/1968	Parker-Hannifin		

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 4

STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	10/707,698	
Filing Date	August 15, 2003	
First Named Inventor	Williams et al.	
Art Unit	3679	
Examiner Name	E. Nicholson	
Attorney Docket Number	22188/06727	

Examiner	Cito	Decument Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages Columns Lines Where
Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevan Figures Appear
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	FORE	IGN PATENT DOC	JMENTS		
Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
	Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
	GB 2032555	05/1980	Olov Magnus		
	GB 2080900	02/1982	Waverly		
	JP 5079586	03/1993	Sekisui		
	JP 3079892	04/1991	Miura Yoshihisa		
	JP 3229090	10/1991	Riyouden Serv.		
	JP 7055073	03/1995	NTN Corp.		

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Col		
		Application Number	10/707,698	
IN	IFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	August 15, 2003	
		First Named Inventor	Williams et al.	
S	TATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Art Unit	3679	
	(Use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	E. Nicholson	
Sheet	5 of 7	Attorney Docket Number	22188/06727	

			U. S. PATENT DO		Daniel California Linea 18/hana
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevan Figures Appear
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 	FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	JMENTS		
Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
	Country Code ^{3 -} Number ^{4 -} Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
	JP 7110084	04/1995	Hitachi Metals		
	JP 8093975	04/1996	Hitachi Metals		
	JP 8145251	06/1996	Fuji Gokin		L
	JP 8210567	08/1996	Hitachi Metals		
	NL 6710340	01/1968	Grassel		Ĺ
	WO 89/09904	10/1989	Nords		

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO **Application Number** 10/707,698 Filing Date August 15, 2003 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor Williams et al. STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 3679 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** E. Nicholson 22188/06727 Sheet 6 Attorney Docket Number

			U. S. PATENT D	OCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
		Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}			Figures Appear
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		FORE	IGN PATENT DOC	JMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Cite Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	T
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		WO 93/25837	12/1993	Lehmann		
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO	Complete if Known			
	Application Number	10/707,698		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	August 15, 2003		
	First Named Inventor	Williams et al.		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Art Unit	3679		
(Use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	E. Nicholson		

Attorney Docket Number

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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		Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}			Figures Appear	
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